

Flourish: 2 Thessalonians
“5 Ways to Face Hostility”
2 Thessalonians 1.3-12
October 11, 2020 / Pastor Shawn

1. _____ God More.

³ Dear brothers and sisters, we can't help but thank God for you, because your faith is flourishing . . . 2 Thessalonians 1:3a (NLT)

Hyperauxanō (hü-per-au-ksä'-no): _____

2. _____ One Another More.

³ Dear brothers and sisters, we can't help but thank God for you, because your faith is flourishing and your love for one another is growing. 2 Thessalonians 1:3 (NLT)

Agapē (ä-gä'-pa): _____

Pleonazō (ple-o-nä'-zo): _____

3. _____ the Course.

⁴ Therefore, among God's churches we boast about your perseverance and faith in all the persecutions and trials you are enduring. ⁵ All this is evidence that God's judgment is right, and as a result you will be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are suffering. 2 Thessalonians 1:4-5

Hypomonē (hü-po-mo-na'): _____

¹¹ With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may bring to fruition your every desire for goodness and your every deed prompted by faith. 2 Thessalonians 1:11

IF YOU _____ THE VICTIM
YOU WILL _____ THE VICTIM

4. Have _____ on Non-Believers.

⁶ God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you ⁷ and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels. ⁸ He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. ⁹ They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might ¹⁰ on the day he comes to be glorified in his holy people and to be marveled at among all those who have believed. This includes you, because you believed our testimony to you. 2 Thessalonians 1:6-10

5. Continue living to _____ Jesus.

¹² We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Thessalonians 1:12

Discussion Questions

1. What was your “A-Ha” from Sunday’s message? Why?
2. Have you ever experienced hostility directed toward you? How did it make you feel? How did you react? Have you ever experienced hostility directed toward you because of your faith? How did you respond?
3. What are the “5 Ways” for dealing with hostility that Pastor Shawn outlined from Sunday’s message? Which one do you need to work on most? Why? Be specific.
4. After you’ve identified 1 of the “5 Ways,” identify one thing you can do to develop or grow in that way.
5. Pastor Shawn said: “If you play the victim, you stay the victim.” What did he mean by that? How may the “5 Ways” outlined help you move from victim to victorious?
6. Brainstorm with your Small Group how you can take the initiative and bring joy and hope to those around you amidst the next few weeks before Election Day. Also, take a moment to pray for our current leaders, as well as whoever the future leaders of our country might be.